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EGYPT: President Sadat may face a renewal of domestic unrest following the reopening of the nation's schools in mid-February.

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[redacted] meetings held last week between student activists and labor leaders in several Egyptian towns [redacted] to discuss coordinated demonstrations. The students apparently agreed to resume their strikes "sometime" after the universities reopen, at which time the labor leaders would order their members to demonstrate their support.

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President Sadat is said to be aware of the plan but has not yet reacted to it. Government representatives have been meeting with students during the current holiday in attempts to mend fences, but many critical questions have not been answered. The President is apparently determined to maintain order by the use of force if necessary. In late January he declared that he would "deal severely with those who try to split up our national unity."

Sadat has tried to place the blame for student protests on various "outside elements." Some may in fact have been involved. Egyptian security officials have deported a number of Palestinian students whom they claim were the original instigators of the student troubles. The officials also allege the agitators were financed by Communist China.

A few young army officers may have joined the students during the demonstrations [redacted]

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[redacted] Although educated young people inducted since 1967 probably sympathize with student grievances, no widespread military support for the students was evident during the demonstrations.

Sadat may hope that the results of his trip to Moscow will bolster his position and undercut any continuing restiveness. There are limits, however, to what the Soviets can do to ease Sadat's dilemma

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in responding to student criticism of his inaction on recovering the Sinai. In view of the uncertain nature of the alternatives to Sadat's rule, the Soviets can almost certainly be counted on to issue a customary statement of military and political support.

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UN-AFRICA: At the Security Council meeting in Addis Ababa, the Africans have decided to push a draft resolution on Rhodesia that is clearly unacceptable to the British.

The special Council session on African issues has focused on Rhodesia. An 11-member working group of representatives of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) states has been conferring intensively regarding the texts to be offered for Council consideration. [redacted]

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[redacted] the group had great difficulty deciding whether to submit drafts certain to provoke a veto or to offer less contentious phraseology.

On Tuesday evening the group reached final agreement on its Rhodesian resolution, deciding that a text which fully accommodated UK interests would be "too embarrassing." The draft calls on the British to desist from implementing the proposed settlement with Salisbury and urges London to convene a constitutional conference that would permit Rhodesian blacks to participate in the development of new proposals. A separate paragraph calls upon South Africa to remove immediately its police and armed forces from Rhodesia. The UK delegation has already indicated that it will veto such a draft.

The session has otherwise been highlighted by speeches from a number of leaders of African liberation movements and by competition between the Soviet and Chinese delegations to associate themselves with African causes. The resulting atmosphere may have contributed to the decision by the African working group to offer draft resolutions on the other traditional African issues: South-West Africa, apartheid, and the Portuguese territories. Separate OAU subcommittees are now in the process of drafting these texts [redacted]

The Western delegations earlier had hoped that time limitations and other factors would force the Africans to accept a general declaration palatable to the West. [redacted]

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